

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

PLEASE AMEND THE SPECIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 of the Specification with the following:

This application is a continuation of ~~co-pending~~abandoned U.S. Patent Application No. 09/615,947, filed on July 13 2000, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference. This application also reclaims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120/119 to Danish Application No. PA 1999 01020, filed on July 13, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent No. 60/144,011, filed on July 15, 1999.

Please replace lines 1-8 of page 6 of the Specification with the following:

$N_{\text{ref}}=8$). A gap is counted as non-identity of the specific residue(s), i.e. the DNA sequence AGTGTC will have a sequence identity of 75% with the DNA sequence AGTCAGTC ($N_{\text{dif}}=2$ and $N_{\text{ref}}=8$). Sequence identity can alternatively be calculated by the BLAST program e.g. the BLASTP program (Pearson W.R and D.J. Lipman (1988) PNAS USA 85:2444-2448)(~~www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/BLAST~~). In one aspect of the invention, alignment is performed with the global align algorithm with default parameters as described by X. Huang and W. Miller. Adv. Appl. Math. (1991) 12:337-357. _____, _____available _____at http://www.eh.embnet.org/software/LALIGN_form.html.

Please replace line 30 of page 35 of the Specification with the following line:

The fact that certain of the disclosed antigens are not ~~pre-22ent~~present in *M. bovis* BCG but are

Please replace line 1 of page 34 of the Specification with the following line:

FIGURE LEGENDS BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace lines 2-17 of page 34 of the Specification with the following lines:

Figures 1a, 1b and 1c.

Human lymphocyte responses to rTB7.3, rTB10.4 and rCFP10. The IFN- γ response resulting from stimulation of PBMC's from two human TB patients (circles) and two healthy BCG vaccinated human donors (triangles) with increasing concentrations of rTB7.3 (AFigure 1a), rTB10.4 (BFigure 1b) and rCFP10 (CFigure 1c). All IFN- γ analyses were done in duplicates on supernatants pooled from three wells, and have been given as means. The variation on the duplicate wells was always less than 10% of the mean. IFN- γ levels below 50 pg/ml were considered negative.

Figures 2a, 2b and 2c.

IFN-gamma responses to low mass antigens from *M. tuberculosis* in different groups of donors. 7 healthy non-vaccinated donors (Figure 2a), 7 healthy BCG vaccinated donors (Figure 2b) and 17 TB patients (Figure 2c) were stimulated with 5 μ g/ml of ST-CF or recombinant antigens. Individual antigen specific responses are shown as delta values (IFN-gamma release in the antigen stimulated well minus IFN-gamma release in the unstimulated well). ST-CF: Short-term culture filtrate, rTB7.3: Recombinant form of Rv3221c, rTB10.4: Recombinant form of Rv0288, rCFP10: Recombinant form of CFP10, rESAT-6: Recombinant form of ESAT-6.

Please replace page 37, line 18, to page 38, line 22 with the following lines:

PA0287: 5'- CTGAGATCTATGAGCCTTTTGGATGC- 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 32)

PB0287: 5'- CTAAGCTTGGATCCTCAGAACCCGGTATAGG - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 33)

Rv1036c:

PA1036c: 5'- CTGAGATCTTTGATCCCCGGTCGGATGGTG (*Bgl*II). (SEQ ID NO: 34)

PB1036c: 5'- CTCCCATGGGTCAGGTGATCGAATCAGCCA (*Nco*I) (SEQ ID NO: 35)

Rv1037c:

PA1037c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGACCATCAACTATC* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 36)

PB1037c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTGGATCCTTAGGCCCAGCTGGAGCC* - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 37)

Rv2346c:

PA2346c: 5'- CTGAGATCTATGACCATCAACTATC - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 38)

PB2346c: 5'- CTAAGCTTGGATCCTCAGGCCCAGCTGGAGCC - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 39)

Rv2348c:

PA2348c: 5'- CTGAGATCTGTGCTTTTGCCTCTTGGTCCG (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 40)

PB2348c: 5'- CCCAAGCTTCTAGCCGGCCGCGGAGA (*Hind*III). (SEQ ID NO: 41)

Rv2653c:

PA2653c: 5'- CTGAGATCTTTGACCCACAAGCGCACTAAA (*Bgl*II). (SEQ ID NO: 42)

PB2653c: 5'- CTCCCATGGTCACTGTTTCGCTGTCGGGTTC (*Nco*I). (SEQ ID NO: 43)

Rv2654c:

PA2654c: 5'- CTGAGATCTATGAGCGGCCACGCGTTGGCT (*Bgl*II). (SEQ ID NO: 44)

PB2654c: 5'- CTCCCATGGTCACGGCGGATCACCCCGGTC (*Nco*I). (SEQ ID NO: 45)

Rv3020c:

PA3020c: 5'- CTGAGATCTATGAGTTTGTGGATGCCCAT (*Bgl*II). (SEQ ID NO: 46)

PB3020c: 5'- CTCCCATGGTTAAACCCGGTGTAGCTGGA (*Nco*I). (SEQ ID NO: 47)

Rv3444c:

PA3444c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGAACGCAGACCCCGTG* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 48)

PB3444c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTGGATCCCTAGCGTGCCCAAGCTCC* - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 49)

Rv3445c:

PA3445c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGGTTGAACCGGGAAGG* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 50)

PB3445c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTGGATCCCTATAGGTCGCCGCCGGC* - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 51)

Rv3890c:

PA3890c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGTCAGATCAAATCACG* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 52)

PB3890c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTGGATCCTTAGAACAAGCCCGCG* - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 53)

Rv3891c:

PA3891c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGGCAGACACAATTCAGG* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 54)

PB3891c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTCCCGGGTCAGGATCCGTGGCTAGC* - 3' (*Sma*I) (SEQ ID NO: 55)

Rv3904c:

PA3904c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGGATCCGACCGTGTTGG* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 56)

PB3904c: 5'- *CTGCCATGGTCACGACCACATACCC* - 3' (*Nco*I) (SEQ ID NO: 57)

Rv3905c:

PA3905c: 5'- *CTGAGATCTATGGGTGCCGACGACAC* - 3' (*Bgl*II) (SEQ ID NO: 58)

PB3905c: 5'- *CTAAGCTTGGATCCTCAGCCACCGCCCACC* - 3' (*Bam*HI) (SEQ ID NO: 59)